Moving forward, together.

Right now, in these times of uncertainty, there’s a promise we can count on: together, we’ll continue to rise to the challenge and find a way forward.

Stanford Medicine, comprised of Stanford Children’s Health, Stanford School of Medicine, and Stanford Health Care, is working to end this pandemic with vaccines, boosters, and state-of-the-art testing.

We’re responding to uncertainty with an unwavering commitment to our community and meeting this moment with courage, compassion, and innovation.

Thank you, Bay Area, for standing with us, together.

Today. Tomorrow. Always.

*We are here for you.*
Stunning Napa Valley-Inspired Estate in Prime Lindenwood

Extensive reconstruction completed in 2013 with inspiration from Solage resort in Napa Valley-Enchanting park-like setting
5 bedrooms, 4 full baths, and 2 half-baths in the main home
Wellness center/guest house with 1 bedroom, 2 baths, Finnish sauna, kitchen, laundry and living room
Sleek, impressive floor plan with high ceilings, custom white oak floors, and room length retractable glass doors to outdoor terraces
Chef’s kitchen with island, walk-in pantry, and top-of-the-line appliances
Luxurious main-level primary suite with fireplace
Main-level bedroom suite or dedicated office with outside entrance
Pool surrounded by lawn and terrace with fireplace
1 acre +/-, gated grounds with raised beds and citrus orchard
Detached 3-car garage with built-ins and Tesla charger
Excellent Menlo Park schools

1 Juniper Drive, Atherton

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • February 25, 2022 • Page 3
Presidents’ Day Sale

INCREDIBLE SAVINGS

All Stickley Furniture

Now through the end of the month!
Open Mon. - Sat. 11am - 5pm

STICKLEY

FLEGELS DESIGN

1010 El Camino Real, Suite 90, Menlo Park • (650) 326-9661
www.flegels.com
Commission backs plans to add 6,000 residences

Despite some concerns, panel endorses strategies for meeting city’s regional housing mandate

By Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto’s plan to add more than 6,000 new dwellings by 2031 calls for substantial growth along El Camino Real and near Caltrain stations, an influx of housing in industrial areas around San Antonio Road and a continuing proliferation of accessory dwelling units throughout the city’s residential neighborhoods. It will mean adding density to areas already zoned for multifamily housing so that parcels that currently accommodate 30 and 40 dwellings per acre would be allowed to have 40 and 50, respectively — a major change that the city believes can create 1,657 additional units in the state-managed planning period between 2023 and 2031. The housing plan also calls on local churches to construct apartment buildings in their parking lots and endorses the construction of residential complexes on city-owned parking lots downtown, policies that would add another 316 dwellings. These changes are expected to be included in the city’s new Housing Element, a document that will lay out the city’s plan to meet its regional allocation of 6,086 units in the next cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. Meeting this state goal would require Palo Alto to produce an average of 760 residences per year throughout the planning cycle, roughly eight times the number that it issued permits for in 2021.

On Wednesday, the necessarily ambitious plan received a key vote of confidence when the city’s Planning and Transportation Commission approved each of the strategies that had been...(continued on page 33)

Districts prepare to expand transitional kindergarten

New state program is part of an effort to reduce gaps in academic achievement

By Angela Swartz and Zoe Morgan

S tate legislation is taking effect this fall that requires all school districts to add free programs for children who turn 5 between Sept. 2, 2022, and Feb. 2, 2023. Known as transitional kindergarten, this pre-kindergarten year introduces students to important life skills in addition to academics.

Several local school districts, including Palo Alto and East Palo Alto’s Ravenswood City, already offer transitional kindergarten (TK). Palo Alto offers half-day schooling for kids born between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2 and plans to expand it next school year to include students who turn 5 through Feb. 2.

But other districts will need to launch programs from scratch. The Menlo Park City school district doesn’t currently run a TK program; it plans to start offering half-day slots for children turning 5 before Feb. 2 next school year, according to staff. The district estimates about 250 to 300 students will enroll.

Expanding transitional kindergarten is part of an effort to reduce gaps in academic achievement between under-served students and their more advantaged peers. The idea is that by getting kids in classrooms earlier, they will see more equal outcomes later on.

Studies have shown that children who attend transitional kindergarten are better prepared for school than other students. TK students enter kindergarten with stronger mathematics and literacy skills and are more engaged in their learning than students who did not attend transitional kindergarten, according to one 2017 study.

“It’s exposing children to that environment and getting them ready, so when they come to kindergarten they just keep on going — they’re ready to be there,” Palo Alto Unified Assistant Superintendent Magali Gauthier said Wednesday.

(continued on page 10)

County health

PUBLIC HEALTH

County may drop mask mandate next week

With 2 of 3 metrics met, Dr. Sara Cody says county is close to lifting indoor masking rule

By Sue Dremann

R esidents of Santa Clara County could see the mask mandate lifted on March 2 if a key public health metric is met for seven straight days, county Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody said Wednesday.

The county chose to keep its mask mandate in place last week, despite the state and other Bay Area counties lifting the mandate for most indoor venues on Feb. 16. Santa Clara County decided it needed to achieve established metrics before ending indoor masking. Leaders said they wanted to be sure they wouldn’t face a spike in cases.

To lift the mandate, Cody said the county needs to meet three metrics the county established a vaccination rate of the county’s entire population of 80%; a low, stable hospitalization rate; and a 7-day rolling average of 550 new daily cases or fewer, sustained for seven consecutive days.

The county has reached the first two metrics and is on the cusp of meeting the third. Nearly 85% of all residents have completed their single- or two-shot vaccine series. The number of residents who have also received booster shots is on the rise, currently at 68%, she said.

The county has also kept the number of hospitalizations low...(continued on page 32)
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

EL CAMINO HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS is seeking individual(s) interested in serving as a member of its COMPLIANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE. The Corporate Compliance/Privacy and Audit Committee is to advise and assist the El Camino Hospital Board of Directors in its exercise of oversight by monitoring the compliance policies, controls and processes of the organization and its affiliated entities and the engagement, independence and performance of the internal auditor and external auditor. Members will have experience in one of the four noted areas compliance, audit, privacy or enterprise risk management.

Qualified candidates who are women and/or members of underrepresented communities are encouraged to apply.

To inquire about the open position or to nominate someone you know, please email nominations@elcaminogroup.org.

Submissions due by March 4, 2022

www.elcaminogroup.org
Police seek the perpetrators in what has become a nationwide pattern of hate

Dozens of antisemitic flyers were found on Sunday morning around Palo Alto, one of several Bay Area communities in which hate-based misinformation has recently been spread, Palo Alto police confirmed on Tuesday.

The sheets of paper attempt to blame the COVID-19 pandemic on Jewish officials and identifies a list of numerous federal officials as Jewish. The same misinformation has been spreading nationwide. The flyers were in plastic zip-close bags weighed down with rice, perhaps to prevent them from being blown away by the wind, police Lt. Con Ma-loney said.

“...The flyers directed people to a website with various videos espousing certain viewpoints, many on topics of a political nature,” he said.

They were tossed onto private properties, with many close to or on the sidewalk. The locations appear to be random, and the same flyers were distributed over a large area in the northern part of Palo Alto, including in the Barron Park and Old Palo Alto neighborhoods.

There is no indication that recipients of the flyers were targeted in any way. Police do not know who distributed the flyers, Ma-loney said. “We have seen news reports of similar, if not identical, flyers being distributed around the state and across the country within the past few weeks. This was not unique to Palo Alto.

In a statement released on Tuesday night, the city of Palo Alto said Sunday’s incident raises concerns about hate crimes and hate incidents and follows calls by faith leaders, the City Council and city leaders for a community response of belonging and kindness. “Our community has strengthened by its diversity. We call on all of us to stand together in support of our neighbors and our community values. We are inspired by the grace of Rabbi (Yosef) Levin and Santa Clara County District Attorney (left) Rosen who have called on us to respond to these vile acts with deliberate acts of goodness and kindness to each other,” Palo Alto Mayor Pat Burt said.

“These acts of violence are a reminder that hate crimes and hate incidents are serious and are taken seriously by the personnel of the Palo Alto Police Department,” police Chief Robert Jonsen said.

“We will continue to review information as it becomes available to determine if criminal charges need to be brought forward to the District Attorney for review.” — Robert Jonsen, police chief, city of Palo Alto

“...It’s sickening. We know antisemitism is on the rise in other places, and yet, when the material is found in (your) hometown, it hits close to home,” said Eisen-berg, who lives in Palo Alto.

The claim that Jewish people are somehow connected to CO-VID-19 in any way is unfounded and despicable, she said. It harkens back to medieval antisemi-tism when people spread the false claim that Jews had poisoned the wells and caused the bubonic plague in Europe. Now, antisemite groups are trying to stir up fear and hatred using the same trope again, she said.

Publicizing the actions of hate groups is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, Eisenberg said Jewish organizations don’t want to amplify the false messages of hate groups. But “we do believe it’s important to educate the public about serious threats to the Jewish community,” she said.

Jews are targeted in 60% of all religious-based hate crimes but they represent only 2% of the population, she noted. More than 80% of the Jewish popu-lation who took part in a 2021 survey by the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is a growing problem. Just 40% of the general population does, she noted.

But the hatred and misrepresen-tations have deadly consequences. The annual survey is taken on the anniversary of the 2018 mass shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is on the rise in the United States and across the country.

The antisemitic flyers also were found in Danville on Thurs-day. The annual survey is taken on the anniversary of the 2018 mass shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is on the rise in other places.

A year ago, in February 2021, the city of Palo Alto passed an anti-hate resolution, a response of belonging and kindness.

The antisemitic flyers also were found in Danville on Thurs-day. The annual survey is taken on the anniversary of the 2018 mass shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is on the rise in the United States and across the country.

According to the survey, fresh-men are averaging 97 minutes a night, sophomores are at 110 min-utes, juniors are seeing 134 min-utes and seniors came in at 119 minutes. The data is sent to the board on Tuesday didn’t break the averages down by whether stu-dents are taking honors and APs, but over 75% of the high schoolers who filled out the survey said they were taking at least one of these classes.

Board member Todd Collins similarly said that he would like to see a distribution of the amount of time students reported working, so that he could tell how many are over the district’s thresholds.

Associate Superintendent of Educational Services Sharon Otek told the board that the survey had been written, adminis-tered and initially analyzed for board review within the span of day.

The survey was given to students during the school day and had a 64% participation rate at Palo and 52% at Gunn, Otek said. Middle schools also distributed the survey and saw higher participa-tion. The survey resulted in 82% at Woodside, 68% at Greene and 78% at JLS.

Middle schools reported lower homework loads than their high school counterparts, with an aver-age of 45 minutes for 6th graders, 47 minutes for 7th graders and 53 minutes for 8th graders. Those totals are well within the limits laid out in the board’s homework policy, which says the average homework load should not exceed 60 minutes for 6th graders, 70 minutes for 7th graders and 80 minutes for 8th graders.

Teaching isn’t the only thing we do, noted a Feb. 22 school board meeting.

Board member Todd Collins similarly said that he would like to see a distribution of the amount of time students reported working, so that he could tell how many are over the district’s thresholds. The annual survey is taken on the anniversary of the 2018 mass shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is on the rise in the United States and across the country.

In pursuit of that mission, we are committed to inclusivity, welcoming families and people from all backgrounds to live, work and visit.

“We value dialogue and re-spectful differences of opin-ion. Our differences can make us stronger; however, respect is the key. We will not condone or tolerate violence, intimidation, or hate in any form. We are committed to making Danville a safe place for all where we celebrate diversity, dignity, and equality for all members of our communi-ty,” she said.

The antisemitic flyers also were found in Danville on Thurs-day. The annual survey is taken on the anniversary of the 2018 mass shooting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the American Jewish Committee think antisemitism is on the rise in the United States and across the country.

For instance, students were (continued on page 32)
**News Digest**

**Former Historic Resources Board chair skirted law for over a year**

Martina Martin, the former Historic Resources Board chair who received a notice of violation from the city for failing to take out a permit before renovating his historic downtown home, began work on the project over a year before the city discovered the violation.

Bernstein, an architect who had spent more than a decade on the board that oversees historic renovations throughout the city, began to reconstruct the interior of his home at 617 High St., in October 2020, his sister Carol Bernstein told the Weekly.

This account, which is supported by emails, Martin Bernstein’s tenants had submitted to him in February 2021 relating to the construction noise, conflicts with the version of events that Bernstein laid out in an interview last week. When asked about the violation at that time, he had told the Weekly that he had been doing prep work in fall 2021 when his father passed away and when he was diagnosed with cancer — factors that prevented him from completing the applications that he was required to submit for the work he was performing on the building’s interior.

Carol Bernstein said in an interview that her brother chose to work discreetly to avoid spending money on the needed permits.

The plan seemingly worked until January of this year, when building inspector Elisa Vargas, acting on information from the city’s historical preservation department, was sent to the property. The department notes, how-ever, that buildings can be elevated for protection. This accommodation, the state department notes, has not been extended to ADUs. In fact, the city’s ordinance includes the caveat: “Units built in a flood zone are not entitled to any height extensions granted to the primary dwelling.”

“In many instances, this would operate as an impermissible restriction on ADUs,” the state department’s letter states.

The city’s rules pertaining to basements also conflict with state regulations, the agency found. The Palo Alto ordinance states that “no basement or other subterranean portion of an ADU/JADU (junior accessory dwelling unit) shall encroach into a setback required for the primary dwelling.”

“The city’s rules pertaining to basements also conflict with state regulations, the agency found. Palo Alto is one of just 13 cities in the state to allow building heights of at least 16 feet. The department announced its findings in a December letter from David Zisser, the agency’s assistant deputy director for local government relations and accountability.

The determination means that the city will now have to modify the ordinance it adopted in October 2020 to ease restrictions related to height, setbacks and permitted square footage for accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

Palo Alto has received “review letters” from the state department notifying them that they need to revise their ADU plans. Atherton, Santa Cruz and Pittsburg are the other Bay Area municipalities that have received “review letters” from the state department, can conflict with a state law prohibiting cities from establishing rear- and side-yard setbacks greater than 4 feet.

The state agency found this clause problematic for two reasons: the letter states.

“First, setbacks may not be required for JADUs as they are constructed within the walls of the primary dwelling,” the department’s letter states. “Second, this requirement imposes excessive restrictions on ADUs converted from an existing area of the primary dwelling or accessory structure with a basement or subterranean space.”

The state agency also took issue with the city’s suggestion that daylight plane requirements, which aim to protect neighbors’ access to light and air, can act as a limit on ADU heights. While this would be a problem in many instances, the requirement cannot be used to limit the height to less than 16 feet. And it faulted the city’s ordinance for counting covered parking in its calculation of the accessory dwelling unit’s square footage.

“Covered parking should not count toward the total floor area of the site as it would unduly limit the allowable size of an ADU established by state law, nor should it directly count toward the area available for the ADU,” Zisser wrote. “Although standards within an underlying zone may apply when noted in the adopted ADU ordinance, they may not be more restrictive than those contained in state statute.”

While the city has agreed to modify its ordinance and clarify many of the provisions that the state department has flagged, it is pushing back against the agency over its findings on basements and daylight planes. In a response letter that city Planning Director Jona-than Lait submitted to the agency earlier this month, he disputes that the city’s failure to grant ADUs in flood zones the same type of height allowances that it grants to primary residences is unduly restrictive.

“It is unclear to the city how the failure to provide additional height above 16 feet represents an impermissible restriction on ADUs,” Lait wrote.

The state department had indicated that it would prefer to have as few restrictions as possible on ADU production.

“The only restriction here is on finished floor height in the flood zone, which cannot be waived or released without impacts in health and safety,” Lait wrote. “In areas requiring the most extreme height above the base flood elevation, an ADU remains feasible within the 16-foot height limit.”

When it comes to basements, Lait challenged the state depart-ment’s findings, noting that the

(continued on page 35)

---

**Police say Crescent Park home was targeted by burglars for a second time**

Palo Alto police on Tuesday night were looking for a person who broke into a home in the city’s Crescent Park neighborhood in what appears to be the second burglary of the residence since November.

The incident occurred at about 8:43 p.m., according to a news release from the Police Department. Someone reportedly broke the glass on a rear door at a home in the first block of Crescent Drive and entered the house. The alarm company notified the police that someone reportedly broke the glass of a rear door at a home in the first block of Crescent Drive, according to police.

Police say the same home was burglarized on Nov. 27. Police believe the burglars fled once the person appeared to have been scared away, according to police.

The investigation indicated that the alarm sounded immediately and the person appeared to have been scared away, according to police. The teenager said nothing had been stolen. She also reported that her husband was at home and sleeping during the break-in.

Search of the burglar’s home in Atherton revealed that police found two sets of footprints in the upstairs hallway, but nothing had been apparently stolen and police believe the burglars fled once they realized the home was occupied.

The first investigation indicated that a burglarly occurred in Palo Alto in 2021, according to police. Anyone with information about Tues-day’s burglary is asked to call the department’s 24-hour dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be emailed to palo-alto@pinpow.org or sent by text message or voicemail to 650-383-8984.

---

**City runs afoul of state regulations**

**Palo Alto pushes back against criticism of accessory housing ordinance**

**By Gennady Sheyner**

**Palo Alto will have to revise its new laws pertaining to accessory dwelling units. The California Department of Housing and Community Development determined the city’s laws are too restrictive.**

By Gennady Sheyner

---

**Upfront**

---

**Veronica Weber**

---

---
W ith the Russian Fed-
eration launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo on Thursday denounced Rus-
sian President Vladimir Putin and backed the new package of sanctions that the United States government and its allies have an-
nounced against Russia.

Eshoo said in a statement that she is “praying for the brave peo-
ple of Ukraine as their country suffers Russia’s military assault.”

“We know Vladimir Putin is an enemy of democracy, and he has revealed his purpose-
ful pursuit of his authoritarian ambitions,” Eshoo said. “I fully support the U.S. and our alli-
es to inflict tough sanctions to make clear to Mr. Putin and autocrats throughout the world that attacks on free and sover-
eign countries will be met with severe consequences.”

Eshoo issued the statement on Thursday morning as Russian soldiers were battling Ukrainian troops throughout Ukraine and closing in on the capital city of Kyiv and as U.S. President Joe Biden unveiled a new package of sanctions against Russia. These include freezing Russian assets in the United States, imposing sanctions on four major Russian banks and cutting off exports of technology to Russia. The United States also is expanding the list of Russian elites and their fami-
lies on the sanctions list.

“These are people who per-
onally gain from the Kremlin’s policies and they should share in the pain,” Biden said in a Thurs-
day morning address.

Eshoo was one of several Bay Area legislators to denounce Putin’s actions on Thursday,
called Putin’s decision’s to in-
vade “an assault on freedom everywhere.”

The international response to Putin’s aggression must be unit-
ed, swift, and severe,” Berman said in a statement. •

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.
com.

Bay Area legislators back sanctions
on Russia after Ukraine invasion

Eshoo, Swalwell and Mullin support sanctions
targeting Russian elites, financial institutions

By Gennady Sheyner

Rep. Eric Swalwell, a Democrat who represents the 15th District in the East Bay, called Putin “a ruthless dictator whose ac-
tions are a threat to democracies everywhere.”

Swalwell called for the U.S. military to give resources to Ukrainians to assist in their de-
ferse and for the intelligence community to provide Ukraine with actionable intelligence. He also called for the U.S. to lead a global sanctions regime that “stops the flow of Russia’s mon-
ey, oil and travelers.”

“Most importantly, we must unite the American people at home, even as former President Trump roots for Russia. I hope every American recognizes the privilege of living in a free coun-
try. What is our democracy worth if we can’t stand against the inva-
sion of another’s?”

State Assembly member Kevin Mullin, who represents the 15th Assembly District and who is vying for Jackie Speier’s seat in the U.S. Congress, also said in a statement that Putin’s aggres-
sion in Ukraine demands “severe sanctions.”

“The rise of authoritarianism is a growing threat to democracy and freedom across the globe,” Mullin said in a statement. “This latest example has no doubt been exacerbated and even encouraged by the radical behavior of other authoritarian figures both foreign and domestic.”

“I have full faith in the Biden administration’s ability to re-
turn G7 and European Union allies, to Putin’s unprovoked aggression.”

Assembly member Marc Ber-
man, who represents the 24th District in the Midpeninsula,
Superintendent of Education Services for Elementary Education Anne Brown said. In TK, kids work on tasks like writing their names, counting to 10 and learning their letters, said Mountain View Whisman School District Assistant Superintendent Cathy Baur, whose district currently offers full-day transitional kindergarten.

Beyond academics, a big part of transitional kindergarten is building social skills and learning to work with others. Teachers help students learn how to express their thoughts and feelings, said Sandra McGonagle, the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for the Los Altos School District.

“It’s definitely more play-based and developmental, as opposed to academic,” Baur said.

Fetcher added that TK is a Band-Aid, putting crayons away and gardening are just some of the activities on a typical day of transitional kindergarten.

Never more needed

The timing of the expansion is perfect since many students were kept home from preschool during the pandemic, said Sonja Virgilio, a TK teacher for Woodside Elementary School, which offers a half-day program.

“It’s a gentler start,” she said, noting that there is a lot of important development for children between the ages of 4 and 5.

“Some kids really do struggle in kindergarten from the lack of experience. Depending on the kid, if they start their school career not having confidence, that can really affect their whole school career.”

Across California, the minimum number of daily instructional minutes for TK next school year will be 180 minutes, including recess. Next school year, class size ratios will be one teacher or teaching assistant per 12 students; classes can have up to 24 children with one teacher and an aide.

After the initial expansion, during the following school year, schools must offer TK to children who turn 5 between Sept. 2, 2023 and April 2, 2024. The law requires that districts offer free education to all 4-year-olds by the 2025-26 school year. The teacher to student ratio is expected to shrink down to 1:10.

TK, which is considered the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience, first came about in California in 2012. Free transitional kindergarten could help level the playing field for families who can’t afford to send their kids to costly private preschools, early childhood education leaders say.

Families will still have the option not to enroll their children.

A pricey addition for school districts

Districts say it’s pricey to add a new grade level. There won’t be much extra funding coming from the state for the initiative.

The majority of local districts are “community funded,” or basic aid, meaning they receive most of their revenue from local sources, including property taxes, parcel taxes and donations. Little of their funding depends on enrollment, so they won’t receive more funding per student.

Palo Alto Unified expects to receive $190,000 in state funding for the transitional kindergarten expansion, which Brown said will not cover the district’s costs, leaving it to pay out of the general fund.

Palo Alto’s expansion of TK is likely to only pencil out to one additional classroom next fall on top of the three that the district currently has. Over time though, the roll-out will be more substantial as the eligible age range expands.

For the time being, Palo Alto intends to keep TK as a half-day program, with three hours and 10 minutes of daily instruction.

Brown estimated that roughly 50% of eligible families are currently participating in Palo Alto’s TK program.

Like Palo Alto, Los Altos’ McGonagle predicts that next year’s expansion will mean one additional classroom on top of the two that already exist.

Everybody’s trying to figure out enrollment right now, but I think we’re going to be at three unless we get a surprise bump and make it four,” McGonagle said.

“The state is providing some funding, but certainly not adequate funding to fully cover the cost of implementing a TK program,” she added.

Beyond additional staff, McGonagle said that her district also expects to spend money on new curriculum and supplies that are appropriate for the younger students.

Looking at next year, Mountain View Whisman doesn’t anticipate any substantial added cost because it had already budgeted for an extra TK class this school year that didn’t end up being needed, Baur said. In the longer term though, the program, and the expense, will likely grow more substantially.

Baur called enrollment the “million dollar question” for a lot of districts.

The uncertainty around just how many families may sign up is in part because TK is optional. Parents can stick with their existing preschool or daycare, or keep their children at home.

Parents surveyed by the Menlo Park district were most likely to enroll their kids in TK if they work full time and need a full-day child care option.

Even so, it will cost the Menlo Park district a little over $1 million to start a TK program, but the district will only receive around $100,000 from the state to jumpstart it. The bulk of the cost will go toward paying new staff members (about $753,000).

Curtis said the district is hoping to avoid a large and costly roll-out.

The path to universal transitional kindergarten

Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>2022-23</th>
<th>2023-24</th>
<th>2024-25</th>
<th>2025-26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turn 5 between Sept. 2 and Feb. 2</td>
<td>1:12</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>1:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum class size</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Expected. Information from California Department of Education.

School districts are required to add transitional kindergarten programs next school year.

The Ravenswood district, which currently relies on enrollment-based funding from the state, expects to become a basic aid district next school year and hasn’t yet ironed out the potential costs of the additional students and facilities needed for TK, according to Chief Business Officer Will Eiger.

The Portola Valley district expects to spend about $450,000 to hire two teachers, two teaching assistants, develop curriculum and train staff. Facilities and furniture costs are dependent on enrollment and haven’t yet been determined.

District administrators said they are “not holding their breaths” that the state will step in with extra TK funding.

The Las Lomitas and Woodside districts have not finalized their TK budgets for next school year.

Staffing concerns

Beyond budget worries, administrators, already facing staffing issues, are also concerned about finding enough staff to work in TK.

What it currently offers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School district</th>
<th>What it currently offers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portola Valley School District</td>
<td>Half-day program (8:15 to 11:45 a.m. until Feb. 23, then 8:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. for those born between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravenswood City School District</td>
<td>Full-day program (8:25 a.m. to 3:10 p.m.) for those born between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodside Elementary School District</td>
<td>Half-day program (8:30 a.m. to noon) for those born between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Altos School District</td>
<td>No TK offerings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain View Whisman School District</td>
<td>No TK offerings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Altos Unified School District</td>
<td>Full-day program (8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.) for those born Sept. 2 to Dec. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain View Whisman School District</td>
<td>Half-day program (8:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. most days and 8:15 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. on Thursdays) for those born Sept. 2 to Dec. 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A student takes part in transitional kindergarten at Costano School in East Palo Alto during the summer of 2021.
Here’s what some of her clients say:

“I do not hesitate to recommend Kathleen and her team for the wonderful job they did preparing and selling my home. Trying to prioritize Kathleen’s good points is difficult—energetic and hardworking, experienced and competent, dependable and supportive. I am quite convinced she was able to increase the number of buyers and ultimately get me the best price imaginable. Am I satisfied? You betcha.

- Carol C., Satisfied Seller 2021

Kathleen Wilson has been incredibly wonderful to work with. She is passionate about Real Estate and knows the area like the back of her hand. Her extensive knowledge of the market and personal contacts helped us to find local contractors, electricians, gardeners, painters, pool repair maintenance, relocation companies, home warranties and more! Kathleen is cheerful and diligent, so we could not have asked for a more qualified agent.

- Kevin and Veronika S., Buyers, 2021

We reached out to Kathleen Wilson when we decided to sell. Kathleen’s extensive real estate experience and specific knowledge of the area, we were able to navigate an unprecedented real estate market, get multiple offers within one week, and sold our home for 28% higher than our list price. Kathleen provides gold standard service and is one of the best real estate agents we’ve worked with. Our family is so happy we worked with Kathleen and we would recommend her to anyone that is looking to buy or sell a home.

- Kim and Lyndsay H., Satisfied Sellers 2021

“We want to thank you for all you did to help us buy a new home and sell our current home. Your professional service, knowledge, and calm demeanor helped us accomplish a quick sale on our home and purchase our new home. Huge kudos for handling it all simultaneously!

- Ben and Aileen Q., Seller and Buyer, 2021

Call Kathleen today and let her expertise work for you!

Kathleen Wilson
650.207.2017
kathleen.wilson@compass.com
www.kathleenwilsonhomes.com
DRE 00902501
Paul Vincent Carroll
May 6, 1953 – February 24, 2020

Paul Vincent Carroll, our most beloved father, husband, brother, and friend, died two years ago on February 24th, 2020, at home surrounded by family. We sincerely apologize for the late notice — it is by no means a reflection of how dear he was to us. He is survived by his wife, Orna Santo-Carro, his children, Kate and Max, his brother, Patrick; his stepsons, Nimrod Santo and Shachar Santo, and Shachar’s son Aiden; and his siblings, Charles, Christina Carroll-White, Denise Schwandt, Kato Wachtich (wife of Charles), Carey White (husband of Christina), Michael Schwandt (husband of Denise), and Lauren Macaulay (wife of Paul’s deceased brother, John David), as well as nieces and nephews Jack, Lizzie, Emily, CJ, Liza, Nick, Zoe, Gemma, and Quinn.

Paul was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, the second child of John and Marie Carroll. He went to the University of Virginia, but left after three years to pursue a newfound interest in ballet. He studied at Joffrey Ballet School in New York City, supporting himself by waiting tables and driving a taxicab. An excellent dancer, he struggled with his other odd jobs, almost hitting someone on his first day as a cabby and spilling drinks on a well-known actor during one table-waiting shift. He danced professionally in Illinois for a year or two before an injury made him give up dance for the law, which he studied back at the University of Virginia.

During Paul’s time in New York, he met his first wife, Lisa Carnochan. Once he finished his law degree, the two of them moved across the country to California. He worked for Keker and Brockett (now Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP) for several years, before leaving the firm to set up practice as a sole practitioner. Out of the house, he built an environmental-law practice protecting endangered species and their habitats, a practice he supplemented with work in criminal appeals.

Paul was a man of many hobbies and interests. He loved animals from an early age. When he was in high school he found a baby raccoon, abandoned by its mother and surrounded by dead siblings. He hid the raccoon in his jacket for the rest of the school day and the bus ride home. For that whole summer, Victor was his constant companion, a spirit of mischief and affection. Paul was also an avid dancer, at one point teaching dance classes at his law firm.

Paul was predeceased by his loving father, Carlotta, who was a student of Palo Alto schools and a graduate of Gunn High School. She earned her BS degree in Chemistry from the University of California Santa Cruz. She was known for her creativity and free spirit. During high school, Misa played club soccer and was an active volunteer with the National Charity League. The NCL core program is for mothers and daughters, grade 7-12, to participate in a program that embraces philanthropy, leadership and culture. Misa was a valued member of the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple and active in the temple choir.

It is with heavy hearts that Terrie and Mari Masuda, and Sven Seltmann announce the sudden passing of their beloved daughter, sister and wife, Misa Masuda. Misa was born on Jan. 8, 1982 in Seoul, South Korea and passed away peacefully on Jan. 20, 2022 in San Jose, CA. Misa was predeceased by her loving father, Ed Masuda. Misa leaves behind her loving mother Terrie, sister Mariko, devoted husband Sven and many adoring relatives. Misa also leaves behind numerous friends whom she loved who will miss her greatly but definitely not forget her.

Misako “Misa” Masuda
January 8, 1982 – January 20, 2022

Misa was a student of Palo Alto schools and a graduate of Gunn High School. She received a BS degree in Chemistry from the University of California Santa Cruz. She was known for her creativity and free spirit. During high school, Misa played club soccer and was an active volunteer with the National Charity League. The NCL core program is for mothers and daughters, grade 7-12, to participate in a program that embraces philanthropy, leadership and culture. Misa was a valued member of the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple and active in the temple choir.

In August of 2017, Misa married Sven Seltmann. The two of them resided in both San Jose and Santa Cruz. The family held a small private service on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 2751 Louis Rd. www.PABT.org

Memorial donations may be made to the National Charity League and/or Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. Link: https://www.nationalcharityleague.org/
Help make an impact: Link: https://www.pabt.org/donate


Shachar’s son Aiden; and his nieces and nephews Jack, Lizzie, Emily, CJ, Liza, Nick, Zoe, Gemma, and Quinn.

Paul’s greatest joys.

Paul was fortunate to live in a state where he could choose how he wanted to leave this world. He left listening to his favorite anime, surrounded by love.

A memorial in Redwood City is planned for March 5th, 2-5 p.m. Please email kcarrroll2787@gmail.com for details.

Charlotte Maurice
January 20, 1928 – February 19, 2022

Charlotte (Carlotta) Maurice died peacefully in the early hours of February 19th, aged 94.

Born in Chicago, she left for California at age 16 to attend university at Berkeley and then at UCLA, where she received her Master’s degree in English Literature. A keen student of Shakespeare, Carlotta was also an accomplished poet, with her poems published in literary journals such as Harvard and Ohioana.

After the war, in a spirit of adventure and optimism, like the Beatnik she was, Carlotta left for Europe, first to Paris and then to Rome, where she adopted the name “Carlotta.” She met her husband David on her birthday at a performance of Der Freischütz at the Rome Opera House. They then settled in David’s hometown of London, where their three daughters were born and raised. In 1968, the family moved to California.

A music lover, an expert cook, and a stellar hostess, her Boxing Day and summer parties were legendary.

Carlotta was involved in several organizations, mainly social services for the homeless, HIV patients, seniors and veterans and was recognized for her exemplary service with the Senior Peer Counseling Program of Peninsula Family Service by Representative Jackie Speier. She was also recognized for her years of service as a Friend of the Santa Clara University.

She is survived by her daughters Célia Maurice of Atherton, Julia Maurice of Paris, Ruth Maurice of Palo Alto, and five grandchildren: Emme and Decca Fulton, Joachim Dzelu, and Max and Charlotte Beard.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

A memorial in Redwood City is planned for March 5th, 2-5 p.m.

Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP during Paul’s time in New York, he met his first wife, Lisa Carnochan. Once he finished his law degree, the two of them moved across the country to California. He worked for Keker and Brockett (now Keker, Van Nest & Peters LLP) for several years, before leaving the firm to set up practice as a sole practitioner. Out of the house, he built an environmental-law practice protecting endangered species and their habitats, a practice he supplemented with work in criminal appeals.

Paul was a man of many hobbies and interests. He loved animals from an early age. When he was in high school he found a baby raccoon, abandoned by its mother and surrounded by dead siblings. He hid the raccoon in his jacket for the rest of the school day and the bus ride home. For that whole summer, Victor was his constant companion, a spirit of mischief and affection. Paul was also an avid dancer, at one point teaching dance classes at his law firm.

Paul was predeceased by his loving father, Carlotta, who was a student of Palo Alto schools and a graduate of Gunn High School. She earned her BS degree in Chemistry from the University of California Santa Cruz. She was known for her creativity and free spirit. During high school, Misa played club soccer and was an active volunteer with the National Charity League. The NCL core program is for mothers and daughters, grade 7-12, to participate in a program that embraces philanthropy, leadership and culture. Misa was a valued member of the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple and active in the temple choir.

In August of 2017, Misa married Sven Seltmann. The two of them resided in both San Jose and Santa Cruz. The family held a small private service on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 2751 Louis Rd. www.PABT.org

Memorial donations may be made to the National Charity League and/or Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. Link: https://www.nationalcharityleague.org/
Help make an impact: Link: https://www.pabt.org/donate

Laura Carroll-White, Denise Seltmann, Edward Masuda, Shachar’s son Aiden; and his nieces and nephews Jack, Lizzie, Emily, CJ, Liza, Nick, Zoe, Gemma, and Quinn.

Paul’s greatest joys.

Paul was fortunate to live in a state where he could choose how he wanted to leave this world. He left listening to his favorite anime, surrounded by love.

A memorial in Redwood City is planned for March 5th, 2-5 p.m. Please email kcarrroll2787@gmail.com for details.
Mary Lou Shumway passed peacefully on February 20, 2022 at the Sunrise retirement community in Palo Alto. She was 94. She was born in the Red River Valley town of Erskine, MN on September 26, 1927 to Mary Lucille Brandley and Sheldon Harry Sturman. Her mother, a nurse, and her father, a physician, ran the local hospital out of their home there. Remarkably, Mary Lou survived staph sepsis and an encephalomy when she was only 3 years old. When her father changed medical paths to become a pathologist, the family moved to Minneapolis where she attended high school.

Mary Lou attended the University of Minnesota nursing school from 1945-1950 and then worked as a school nurse. In 1951, she met and married Norman E. Shumway, Jr. In 1957, they moved to California where Norman began his long career as a researcher and cardiothoracic surgeon at Stanford University. Mary Lou helped ground Norman as he became a dedicated and undaunted medical pioneer while raising 4 children.

She was a private person who enjoyed long walks, devouring novels and biographies, and listening to KQED. She enjoyed trips to San Francisco. She delighted in taking her children to the theater, Magic Pan, and Blum’s for hot fudge sundaes. She loved Carmel and Point Lobos. She was known for her chocolate pie and angel food cake. She was a doting grandmother. She insisted on driving her two grandchildren to school every morning. She was affectionately known as "Mama Lou" and "Lou Lou.

She is survived by her son, Michael, sons-in-law Thomas Kaster and Glenn Haller, and daughters, Sara, Lisa and Amy, and her grandchildren Siena and Sander.

A celebration of her life is planned for June. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making a memorial contribution to the Michael J. Fox Foundation. The family wishes to thank the staff at Sunrise for their loving care of Mary Lou.

Merrill E. Newman
May 20, 1928 – January 17, 2022

Merrill Newman led a vigorous, engaged life that inspired others by example. He died tired and worn, but without a spot of rust. The reach of Merrill’s influence and love was broad and enduring. He led with his actions, a quiet and powerful role model.

Merrill was born in Sacramento and raised in Colusa, California, a fertile farming town north of the Capitol. His parents were both schoolteachers. In the hot climate of the Sacramento Valley, the Colusa city swimming pool was the center of after school and summer recreation. As a child of the Great Depression, Merrill found the Red Cross water safety, first-aid and CPR programs a good fit and worked summers and after school as a lifeguard and swim instructor. He also mowed the park lawns.

Merrill graduated with a BS in Zoology from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1950. He served in the US Army in Korea, stationed behind the lines with partisan forces on islands off the coast. Using infrequent quiet moments, he trolled the Yellow Sea for unfamiliar fish, one of which was later named for him: Liparis Newmani.

Following his discharge and on the GI Bill, Merrill earned an MA and teaching credential at Stanford, where he met and married Lee, a Stanford graduate. Merrill taught high school math and science, coached the swim team, and for a decade taught Industrial Engineering at College of San Mateo’s Adult Evening Program. His son, Jeff, and daughter, Jennifer, were born while he was studying nights for his MBA at the University of Santa Clara. Later the family enjoyed backpacking the Trinities and father/son bike rides through California’s coastal mountains. Neither Merrill’s guitar skills nor his phonetics playing level, but he practiced diligently and took pleasure accompanying Jennifer on the flute.

Leaving high school teaching in 1956, Merrill worked for a series of technology companies — first in manufacturing and then in finance. As CFO of several high growth private and public companies, he was always a bike ride from home. In retirement he worked in venture consulting, where he was active until the end. He connected with “Valley” leaders but, more importantly, with those who struggled. He always ended with "...and bless those less fortunate." He served on the Board of Directors of several non-profit organizations, including Children’s Health Council, American Red Cross and the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. In 2005 he was awarded Avenidas' Lifetimes of Achievement Award.

Merrill was an adventurer and sailed the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He and Lee sailed down the coast of Mexico, Central and South America and through the Panama Canal. Merrill started scuba diving in the early 1960s and did his last “check-out” dive three years ago. He earned a General Class Ham radio license in 1973 and passed Morse code exam. He also became proficient in celestial navigation, earned a Coast Guard 50-ton Master’s license and developed practical skills in the art of welding.

Having a keen interest in Korea and the people he fought for as a young man, Merrill, age 85, and a friend arranged, through a recognized travel agency, for a guided tour of North Korea. On boarding a plane for his flight home, Merrill was arrested and charged, presumably stemming from his military service 60 years earlier. Through the efforts of many, he was reunited with his family after being held incomunicado for six weeks in the DPRK. Merrill is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lee, his two grandchildren, daughter-in-law Ryan and son Jeff. He was predeceased by his daughter Jennifer, brother Norm and sister Barbara.

Merrill had a number of "adopts" — "adopted" sons and daughters.

With COVID preventing a church memorial, close family gathered in Grass Valley for a grave-site interment. Remembrances may be made to the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto (1985 Louis Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303) or Silicon Valley Red Cross (2731 N. First St., San Jose, CA 95134).
Tucked away in complete privacy on gated grounds of over an acre, this spectacular estate offers luxurious living and a quintessential Atherton lifestyle. A stone pathway through a vibrant garden entrance leads to the front porch, and inside, high-end rustic charm evokes the feel of a mountainside retreat, with appointments that include gorgeous hardwood floors, fine millwork, and soaring beamed ceilings. Offering 5 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, and over 8,500 square feet of space, including the guest home, this estate provides expansive spaces perfect for both entertaining and everyday living. Highlights include the living room centered by a stone fireplace, the gourmet kitchen with appliances from Viking, Thermador, and Bosch, the handsomely appointed office, and the family room with a delightful wood-burning stove. The expansive primary suite offers a spa-like bathroom, while additional bedrooms including a guest suite provide comfort and convenience for friends and family alike. Plus, the guest house features a full kitchen, bedroom suite, and an attached exercise/yoga room. And for true indoor/outdoor living, multiple points throughout the estate open to the immaculate grounds with a sprawling lawn, pool, outdoor kitchen, and fire pit, all shaded by towering trees along the perimeter.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.327Stockbridge.com
Offered at $12,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
Open Saturday and Sunday, February 26th & 27th from 1pm to 4pm

912 Cowper Street, Palo Alto
Price: $3,998,000

- Vintage downtown Palo Alto home near Professorville and walking distance to University Avenue.

- A light-filled, 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home rebuilt in 1995, emanates timeless Palo Alto charm.

- With an open main room and kitchen, finished basement, redwood deck, peaceful backyard, flagstone patio and potting shed, it offers great aesthetic appeal and adaptability.

- Upstairs, the master bedroom has a large adjoining room suitable for a home office. On the upstairs landing is a high ceiling room with its own bathroom that could be another office or a 4th bedroom. Downstairs, a sliding door when closed, turns the two downstairs bedrooms and bathroom into a private space perfect for guests.

- Convenient to downtown Palo Alto, Addison Elementary, Green Middle and Palo Alto High schools, the downtown Library and Rinconada Park, this home provides easy access to some of Palo’s Alto’s main attractions.

John W. King
John W. King Realtor
License #00868208
Mobile: (650) 483-2710
JOHNWADEKING@GMAIL.COM

www.912CowperStreet.com
The prestige of one of Palo Alto’s most sought-after neighborhoods takes center stage in this magnificent home that exemplifies the grace and elegance synonymous with Crescent Park. Designed by the renowned architect Charles K. Sumner, this home on more than one-half acre has been thoroughly updated to meet the needs of a modern lifestyle while staying true to the charm of its rich heritage. A gated entrance opens to a vibrant garden cultivated by landscape artist Katsy Swan, famous for her work in the Bay Area. Brilliant interiors of over 4,200 square feet in the main home wrap you in style from the moment you step inside, with oak floors extending throughout expansive gathering spaces scaled for entertaining, and high-end appointments including exquisite wall coverings, imported tiles, and a magnificent La Cornue range anchoring the chef’s kitchen. The home’s 6 bedrooms offer comfortable accommodations for family and friends, while 2 guest cottages each with a kitchen provide space for an office, fitness center, or additional lodging. Outside, a meandering brick pathway leads through the private haven of the backyard that features a large terrace, lawn, fire pit, and sparkling pool and spa. Plus, a gated, extended driveway ensures ample parking is always available. Just moments to the shops and eateries along University Avenue, this home is also convenient to Stanford University, and to venture capital centers along Sand Hill Road, with access to acclaimed Palo Alto schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.1420University.com
Offered at $8,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
199 MAPACHE DRIVE
PORTOLA VALLEY

SPECTACULAR CUSTOM ESTATE ON OVER 2.5 ACRES

Supreme luxury, ultimate privacy, and every conceivable modern amenity – this incredible Portola Valley estate in Westridge presents all of these qualities and so much more, set on a peaceful lot of over 2.5 sweeping acres. Just completed in 2020, and offering 5 bedrooms, 6.5 bathrooms, 2 offices, and almost 9,500 square feet of living space, including a beautiful guest house, this custom estate boasts stunning architectural details, green features including solar power and well irrigation, smart home technology, custom automated window treatments, and high-end materials and finishes. Soaring ceilings craft an airy ambiance, and walls of glass open completely for true California indoor/outdoor living. Entertain guests in expansive, elegant formal rooms, and craft delicious meals in the gourmet kitchen featuring a suite of top-of-the-line appliances, including two oversized refrigerators and freezers. Enjoy the convenience of multiple offices, a home fitness center, and an extraordinary theater that provides a spectacular in-home cinematic experience with 14 leather recliner seats and a full bar. Delight in fantastic grounds that feature a sparkling pool, a wood-burning fireplace with a gas starter, and a horse barn. Topping it all off is a location close to numerous nature preserves, major commute routes, and with access to acclaimed Portola Valley schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.199Mapache.com
Offered at $14,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 | 650.785.5822 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
**Guest Opinion**

**It’s time to improve caregiving at memory-care facilities**

By Barton J. Bernstein

---

Based on my personal observations and conversations, reform is needed in our nation’s caregiving facilities.

Before the pandemic and the monitoring for COVID-19, distressing medical problems sometimes occurred at the facilities I visited. At one particular local facility, rank-and-file caregivers were scared and the facility’s supervisors — and, thus, went unexplained to the troubled families of those unit residents. There also is substantial turnover at some of these facilities. At one facility, there was about 40% turnover in the 12 months preceding the pandemic. In 2020, there was reportedly even a higher turnover in the facility’s memory-care unit, which has approximately 15 staff members who rotate shifts. The facility greatly understated its turnover rate of paid caregivers in its memory-care unit, claiming only about 15% annual turnover. That means that families planning to place a loved one with dementia in that unit were remarkably misinformed.

The high turnover is not surprising. Demands on paid caregivers are substantial, their work is difficult and their wages low, which means planning to place a loved one with dementia in that unit are remarkably misinformed. (There is no other ready source of employment for these caregivers.)

In response to ‘Confused by the new lane signage on U.S. Highway 101? Here’s what you need to know’

Post Feb. 13 at 12:30 a.m. by Jeremy Erman, a resident of Midtown:

“These toll lanes on the supposed ‘free way’ are a travesty. Not only do they prioritize faster travel for those with more money, they also apparently slap a fine on anyone who doesn’t have the proper technology, even if they can legally use the lanes for free. And it forces people to read electronic signs and make monetary calculations when they should be focused on driving. How will making it more difficult to use what was the ‘carpool lane’ improve overall congestion on the freeway? Won’t it just put more traffic into the other lanes and slow traffic down even more?”

---

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 750 to 950 words to editor@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you.

We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information, contact Editorial Assistant Lloyd Lise at lise@paweekly.com or 650-222-6526 or Editor Jocelyn Dong at editor@paweekly.com.
2140 HIGH STREET, PALO ALTO

Sited on a picturesque block in iconic Old Palo Alto and nestled behind a white picket fence, this enchanting 3 bed/2 bath home boasts gorgeous curb appeal and wonderful light.

Thoughtful details, from a classic fireplace in the living room to handsome built-ins in the dining room, imbue the home with a sense of charm and place.

The bright and cheery kitchen is anchored by striking white cabinetry with attractive navy subway tile accents and a built-in desk perfect for home office space.

The primary suite is tucked away in the back of the residence and offers sliding glass doors to the yard which flood the room with natural light.

Dotted by mature citrus trees and featuring a flagstone patio and hot tub, the tranquil back yard is private and secluded and is the perfect sanctuary for relaxation and al fresco dining.

A versatile detached garage and custom storage sheds complete the picture, as does its central location near top rated Palo Alto schools, parks, and California Avenue restaurants and shops.

Living Area: 1,232 Square Feet*
Lot Size: 5,625 Square Foot Lot*
*Per County records, unverified

Offered at $3,000,000
2140High.com

Carol Carnevale
650.465.5958
carol.carnevale@compass.com
DRE 00946687

Nicole Aron
650.740.7954
nicole.aron@compass.com
DRE 00952657

James Steele
650.796.2523
james.steele@compass.com
DRE 01872027

Or, all of us at CarolNicoleandJames@Compass.com

OPEN HOUSE
SAT & SUN @ 1:30 – 4:30 PM
YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS

199 MAPACHE DRIVE
PORTOLA VALLEY
$14,988,000 | 5 Bd | 6.5 Bth
www.199Mapache.com

756 STONE LANE
PALO ALTO
$3,988,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth
www.756Stone.com

201 MONROE DRIVE
MOUNTAIN VIEW
$2,498,000 | 4 Bd | 2 Bth
www.201Monroe.com

184 ADA AVENUE
MOUNTAIN VIEW
$1,299,000 | 2 Bd | 2.5 Bth
www.184Ada.com

1807 WALNUT DRIVE
MOUNTAIN VIEW
$2,498,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
www.1807Walnut.com

835 WESTRIDGE DRIVE
PORTOLA VALLEY
$8,988,000 | 5 Bd | 17.5 Bth
www.835Westridge.com

1420 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
PALO ALTO
$8,988,000 | 6 Bd | 17.5 Bth
www.1420University.com

303 ATHERTON AVE
ATHERTON
$19,988,000 | 7 Bd | 18.5 Bth
www.303AthertonAve.com

327 STOCKBRIDGE AVE
ATHERTON
$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 8 Bth
www.327Stockbridge.com

584 CUESTA DRIVE
LOS ALTOS
$2,988,000 | 3 Bd | 2 Bth
www.584Cuesta.com

SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR MORE DETAILS
OR VISIT US AT
DELEONREALTY.COM

PROUDLY SERVING
SILICON VALLEY

DELEONREALTY.COM

Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | DeLeon Realty, DRE #01903224 | Equal Housing Opportunity
756 STONE LANE
PALO ALTO

EXPANSIVE LOT WITH AN OUTSTANDING LOCATION

An incredible lot of nearly 1/3-acre highlights this bright and inviting home set on a peaceful cul-de-sac. This spectacular lot not only provides a sprawling backyard perfect for both entertaining and relaxation, it also offers plenty of space for potential expansion. Highlights of the home include both hardwood and tile floors, a fireplace in the living room, the well-designed kitchen, and the primary suite with two closets. Enjoy a location just moments from both Ramos Park and Mitchell Park, as well as the Mitchell Park Library. Find yourself approximately a mile away from the shops and restaurants of Midtown, and just under 2 miles from US 101. Plus, this home enjoys the added benefit of not being located in a flood zone. Topping it all off is access to top-ranked Palo Alto schools Palo Verde Elementary, JLS Middle, and Gunn High (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.756Stone.com
Listed at $3,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
Alexandra Wilbur, DRE #01926475 | 650.459.3888 | alex@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
New Beginnings In Menlo Park


As the largest, locally owned and operated, independent real estate company in Northern California, Sereno is committed to creating spaces where our agents can perform, grow, and do good work in our communities. We’re excited to be here.

Follow our stride at sereno.com
Sereno Menlo Park – 1158A Chestnut Street, Menlo Park, CA

Sereno Menlo Park  – 1158A Chestnut Street, Menlo Park, CA

Nathalie de Saint Andrieu
650.804.9896
nsahomes.com
DRE 01351482

Samira Amid-Hozour
650.868.1577
samiraandsue.com
DRE 01445386

Charlene Cogan
650.868.0434
charlenecogan.com
DRE 01380340

Kristin Cashin
650.387.2603
kcashingroup.com
DRE 01438764
The Guild Theatre is no stranger to big names: For over 90 years, a steady parade of stars flickered across the screen of the Menlo Park movie palace. But now, the names that appear on the marquee will be performing live inside The Guild.

After an extensive renovation, it will open on Friday, Feb. 25, as a rare, brand-new venue for live music on the Peninsula.

First among those names on the marquee will be jazz pianist and songwriter Robert Glasper on Feb. 25, kicking off an opening weekend that also features “psychedelic-soul” band Monophonics on Feb. 26 and funky blues and R&B with Eric Krasno and Son Little on Feb. 27.

A love of live music spurred the founding of the Peninsula Arts Guild, the nonprofit that operates The Guild Theatre, said Drew Dunlevie, the organization’s president.

“I’m one of these people who goes to a lot of concerts. I really enjoy live music and I have for a long time. I have a group of friends and we hit a lot of shows,” Dunlevie said, noting that with many bands on tour stopping in San Francisco, it’s not always feasible to make the trip up the Peninsula for shows, especially mid-week.

“I would like to be able, on a Tuesday or Wednesday night, to see something close (to home),” he said.

Dunlevie, a Menlo Park resident, founded the Peninsula Arts Guild with investor Pete Briger and entrepreneur Thomas Layton. The group broke ground on The Guild Theatre’s renovation in late 2019. The theater, at 949 El Camino Real, was built in the mid-1920s, according to the Menlo Park Historical Association, and showed films up until fall 2019. It was last operated as an art house by Landmark Theatres, which still runs Palo Alto’s Aquarius Theatre.

The Weekly toured The Guild Theatre a few days ahead of its Feb. 25 opening, as workers were putting finishing touches on a $35 million renovation.

The venue’s opening, originally slated for early February, was delayed several times by pandemic-related issues.

“What was really difficult for us, and I’m sure anyone who tried to build anything during a pandemic, was that there were supply chain issues. We didn’t know what parts were coming in,” said Tom Bailey, general manager of The Guild Theatre.

The stage curtain, for instance, is likely to arrive after the official opening night, but that won’t be much of an obstacle after a renovation that amounted to almost a full rebuild.

The theater was taken down to just two original walls. The renovation included digging out a full basement and adding a mezzanine level, installing a state-of-the-art sound system, a high-quality ventilation system and extensive soundproofing, so as not to disturb neighbors.

The Guild’s stage was built to be significantly bigger than those typically found in small venues, in order to accommodate larger acts, Dunlevie said.

“If you’re standing in the audience, or sitting upstairs or wherever you are inside the venue, you really feel like you’re super close,” Bailey said.

In fact, the audience’s proximity to the stage is immediately obvious when stepping into the venue. The Guild’s capacity is about 500 people standing and 200 seated, making for an intimate sized venue. (For comparison, The Warfield’s capacity is about 2,250 and The Fillmore holds about 1,100, according to the venues’ websites.)

Bailey knows his local venues — a Bay Area native and Stanford grad with strong roots in the local music scene, having worked for Bill Graham Presents, handling such places as The Warfield, The Fillmore and Shoreline Amphitheatre before moving to New York in the eighties, where he managed the Knitting Factory and the Blue Note. Most recently, he

(continued on page 24)
served as general manager for the Capitol Theatre in Port Chester, New York, before returning to the Bay Area in 2019 to take the reins at The Guild Theatre.

“I think one of the most important things about any concert venue — the thing that was great about (the Capitol Theatre) — is the vibe. And vibe is something that Fillmore has; vibe is something that I think all good venues have. And so we’re trying to create a very unique vibe for this place in Menlo Park,” Bailey said.

As intangible as finding a “vibe” may seem, The Guild seems to be getting a good start in that regard, with the Peninsula Arts Guild enlisting designer Ken Fulk to give the space an upscale modern look with retro touches.

Polished wood, stone and unique tiling give a luxurious feeling to common spaces such as the bar areas and bathrooms. But the interiors also embrace The Guild’s 1920s heritage in light fixtures and other details, perhaps most notably in an art deco chandelier salvaged from the theater that hangs over the ground-floor bar.

There are also echoes of its movie theater past in the lobby floor, finished with a colorful design reminiscent of vintage movie theater entrances — and the theater’s blade sign remains, refurbished with “Guild” spelled out in new neon lights, Dunlevie noted.

“It’s going to be one of the fancier places to go see a concert you could even possibly imagine. It’ll be a feast for the eyes — an amazing place for the patrons as well as the artists,” he said.

The Peninsula Arts Guild also made sure to pinpoint what amenities would make the space most comfortable and useful for musicians.

“We did a ton of research. We talked to tour managers, we talked to production managers, we talked to tour managers.” Dunlevie said.

The basement, off limits to patrons, includes a literal green room (paneled in wood painted a deep shade of green), with plush couches and a kitchenette. Off of the green room are two dressing rooms with adjoining bathrooms, complete with showers. A washer and dryer, stashed neatly behind folding green doors, are surprisingly sought-after amenities that not all venues offer, Dunlevie said.

The basement level also has a small kitchen that can provide musicians with meals designed by celebrity chef Michael Mina.

Though avoiding a “commute” to shows in the city was a driving force in the venue’s creation, Peninsula Arts Guild’s aim is not to compete with San Francisco, but when possible, offer a more local option for Peninsula music fans.

“We’re really trying to make this a home-base kind of venue where people can stay close to home and don’t have to drive an hour there and drive back. And with public transportation not being the most popular way to travel these days too, I think that there will be more regional attendance of concerts than there has been in the past,” Bailey said.

The Guild’s small size could actually complement larger venues in the region, as Dunlevie said one aim is to make The Guild Theatre attractive to big names on tour as a venue for charitable fundraising concerts.

Many well-established artists have causes that they support, he said, so a big-name act could play a larger Bay Area venue on their tour and then play The Guild to raise money for their cause.

This possibility is supported by the venue’s nonprofit status, which means not having to maximize profit on every event they book.

“One of the most important parts about being involved in the 501(c)(3) is remembering that our goal is to present a variety, a wide range of music,” Bailey said.

The model offers more flexibility in programming, including the ability to make the venue available to local groups and special events, such as book releases, talks and lectures or performances by school bands, he noted.

And booking-wise, the Guild’s current schedule reflects an open approach, with diverse genres represented, at various ticket price points, as well. Upcoming dates include performances from folk-rock band Michigan Rattlers, rapper Lyrics Born, rock band Low Cut Connie and soul singer-songwriter Macy Gray.

“We’ve got a wide range of stuff. We’re really gonna try a lot of different things and see what the community wants to see,” Bailey said.

For more information and a full schedule of upcoming shows, visit guildtheatre.com.

Email Arts & Entertainment Editor Heather Zimmerman at hzimmerman@paweeekly.com.

About the cover: The renovation of Menlo Park’s Guild Theatre included the addition of a mezzanine level with seating and a bar. Photo by Magali Gauthier. Design by Douglas Young.
Exceptional Private Estate on 2.75 Acres

This gated estate is private and secure, located in the heart of Piedmont, a residential community is known for its high-ranking school district and grand homes. A completely updated mid-century modern classic by famed architect Gardner Dailey. The home is an entertainer’s dream with Dailey’s signature style of wide hallways and doors and windows that turn rooms into gardens. Mature trees and manicured grounds create a park-like atmosphere on the most prestigious street in Piedmont.

Piedmont, California
$19,850,000
PiedmontsFinest.com
201 MONROE DRIVE
MOUNTAIN VIEW

TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT ON MORE THAN ¼-ACRE

A sizable lot of more than one-quarter acre highlights this delightful 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home that offers comfortable living along with tremendous opportunity for expansion. This unique neighborhood borders Palo Alto and offers a lifestyle befitting of the city, while also providing the added bonus of being mapped to acclaimed Los Altos schools. Enjoy the enclosed front yard with privacy and space for kids and pets to play. Inside, inviting spaces begin with the large, open living room, while the updated kitchen with new quartz countertops is sure to inspire your inner chef. The primary bedroom can be sectioned off to create an office or nursery, and all of home’s additional bedrooms are served by updated bathrooms. Plus, the expansive backyard offers potential for an addition or a detached ADU. Find yourself within approximately ½-mile of the shops and restaurants in The Village at San Antonio Center, and have easy access to both Caltrain and US 101.

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
www.201Monroe.com
Listed at $2,498,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent
Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.963.5062 我們精通國語和粵語 | Equal Housing Opportunity
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
184 ADA AVENUE #A
MOUNTAIN VIEW

STYLISHLY UPGRADED AND A CENTRAL LOCATION

The centrally located Whisman neighborhood provides the perfect backdrop for this 2-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom, end-unit townhome that has been stylishly refreshed to meet the needs of a modern Silicon Valley lifestyle. Numerous updates including new flooring throughout, fresh interior paint, new kitchen countertops and appliances, and upgraded bathrooms give this home a crisp, lively ambiance from the moment you step inside. Over 1,300 square feet of space includes the living room with a fireplace, the dining area that opens to the peaceful backyard patio, and two privately situated bedroom suites, one of which includes a sizable balcony. Plus, this home offers an attached 2-car garage. Commuters are sure to appreciate easy access to Light Rail, Highway 85, and Route 237, putting all of the Bay Area within reach, while the shops and restaurants of Mountain View's historic Castro Street are just a short drive away, and children may attend top-ranked Mountain View High (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.184Ada.com
Listed at $1,299,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer’s Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer’s Agent

Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.963.5062 我們精通國語和粵語 | Equal Housing Opportunity
Managing Broker: Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224
Announcing
THE 36TH ANNUAL PALO ALTO WEEKLY

Short Story Contest

ALL STORIES MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AT:
PaloAltoOnline.com/short_story/

Prizes for First, Second and Third place winners in each category: Adult, Young Adult and Teen

ONLINE ENTRY DEADLINE
April 4, 2022

ALL stories must be 2,500 words or less

Sponsored by:
FORMER MICHELIN STAR RESTAURANT BAUME IS PIVOTING TO A NEW NAME AND A NEW BISTRO-STYLE MENU ALONG CALIFORNIA AVENUE IN PALO ALTO.

After 12 years that included two Michelin stars and then purposefully forfeiting them, Baumé has closed to make way for a new concept from the husband-and-wife team of Bruno and Christie Chemel. On March 8, Baumé becomes Bistronomie by Baumé in the same space at 201 California Ave.

The bistro movement has grown to the point where it is hard to define. Generally, it signifies a restaurant that applies fine-dining techniques to comforting bistro dishes. Chemel, who has demanded increasingly high-end experiences with hard-to-find ingredients and rare wines from throughout the world, wanted to preserve Baumé’s legacy and that’s not really me,” Chemel said.

“We are still fine-dining food in a more bistro style and ambiance’,” Chemel said.

“My personality. I enjoy the process. I would have replied to the idea of to-go food by saying, ‘I hate that, to put my food in plastic containers or cardboard containers? No.’” Chemel said that over the past 12 years, Baumé has attracted mainly international customers who have demanded increasingly high-end experiences with rare wines from throughout the world.

“You don’t realize that your prices go up and up. Because everything you buy is expensive — you don’t realize that you’re running a ‘special’ restaurant and that’s not really me,” Chemel said.

“He notes that Bistronomie by Baumé will still focus on technical, high-quality food, just in a more casual environment. Noting that he wanted to preserve Baumé’s legacy in his new restaurant, Chemel said, "We are still fine-dining food in a more bistro style and ambience." Bistronomie by Baumé, 201 California Ave., Palo Alto; 650-328-8899 (text only). Reservations required. • Email Associate Digital Editor Anthony Shu at peninsulafoodist@embarcaderopublishing.com.
THE SIX FIFTY
2022
PENINSULA PHOTO CONTEST

presented by
Palo Alto Weekly & Palo Alto Art Center

CATEGORIES
Abstract
Landscapes
Moments
Portraits
Travel
Wildlife

DIVISIONS ADULT & YOUTH

ENTRY DEADLINE
MARCH 21

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:
peninsulacontest2022.artcall.org
We’re Sereno.

The largest, locally owned and operated, independent real estate company serving Northern California communities.

- Over $6.5B in annual sales.
- Recognized by REAL Trends 500 Report as a top producing brokerage since 2009.
- Number 3 in the nation for Highest Average Sales Price as ranked by REAL Trends.
- Ranked as a Top Workplace by Bay Area News Group every year since 2010.

FOLLOW OUR STRIDE AT SERENO.COM
This February why not...

Start a conversation!
Learn to text & tweet with help from Senior Planet @Avenidas from AARP.

Get your body grooving!
Ease into exercise with Avenidas’ gentle online yoga or other movement classes.

Exercise your brain...
...with a variety of online classes from Avenidas.

Embarcadero Media is seeking a full-time reporter with a passion for local journalism. We are an award-winning online news service covering the vibrant city of Mountain View, the home of Google and NASA Ames Research Center, in the heart of Silicon Valley.

We’re looking for someone with excellent writing and reporting skills, who is self-motivated and eager to learn, and is familiar with the Mountain View area. Being bilingual in Spanish is a plus.

The Mountain View Voice Online is part of Embarcadero Media, which includes the Palo Alto Weekly and The Almanac. To apply, send a resume, cover letter and three news clips to Editor Andrea Gennett at editor@msv-voice.com.

### Hate (continued from page 7)

Americans.

District Attorney Rosen, who also is Jewish, said on Tuesday that he is disappointed and angry that a small fringe group is trying to sow hatred in the community.

“It’s not an accident that Palo Alto is the place in the south bay the antisemitic group chose to spread the leaflets.

“It’s the largest Jewish community in the Bay Area,” Rosen said. “It’s an attempt to intimidate Jews.”

Barron Park, one of the Palo Alto neighborhoods where the flyers were found, has many Jewish residents, he said.

Rosen noted the diversity and value most people in the area place on inclusion and respect for the Bay Area’s melting pot of cultures and faiths. Because of that, “I think these attempts will fail,” he said.

Rosen spoke with Jonsen after learning of the incidents. Investigators will try to find the culprits and he is confident they will succeed. But whether the flyers or their distribution are a crime is questionable. Hate crimes involve a crime such as vandalism or battery that are perpetrated out of hatred, the police likely fall into the category of hate incidents.

Whether prosecutable or not, Rosen said it’s important to identify the people behind the hate literature and its distribution.

“I would love to have a conversation with some of these people to try to change their hearts and minds. I don’t know if that’s naive, but I would be willing to try,” he said.

Rabbi Levin of Chadab Palo Alto said the way to fight hatred is through positivity and friendship.

### Mask (continued from page 5)

and stable. The number of newly hospitalized patients with COVID-19 on Feb. 21 was 21, mirroring the rate prior to the omicron variant surge.

The county changed how it measures the hospitalization rate since the emergence of omicron. Now, data shows that a greater proportion of patients are found to have COVID-19 when they are hospitalized for other reasons and aren’t being hospitalized due to the virus, Cody said.

Once the third metric is met, the mask mandate could be lifted. Cody said the trends are “very promising.”

On Thursday, the seven-day rolling average fell to 501 cases, the first time it’s dipped below 550 in recent weeks. If it stays under the cutoff for seven consecutive days, the mask mandate will likely be lifted, county officials said in a press release.

Once the mandate is lifted, Cody said the county will make a recommendation that people still wear masks, but they won’t be required. Unmasking won’t be universal. Residents must still be masked indoors at schools, hospitals and medical clinics, on public transportation and in certain crowded settings under a state order, she said. Staff will also require unvaccinated people to keep masking indoors.

COVID-19 variants also continue to be the wild cards. So far, the county is experiencing the original omicron variant, BA.1, which spreads more rapidly but hasn’t been fatal. Cases of the omicron subvariant BA.2 are present in Santa Clara County, which researchers say is 30% more contagious and might be resistant to therapeutic antibody treatment. So far it hasn’t been surging, Cody said. She remained cautiously optimistic.

According to a World Health Organization weekly epidemiological update through Feb. 15, some countries have seen an increase in BA.2 cases in a short period of time. In South Africa, the prevalence rose from 2% on Feb. 4 to 86% by Feb. 11. In the United Kingdom, the prevalence of BA.2 increased six-fold from 12% to 72% in one week. In Denmark, it rose 79% from 20% in the last week of December to become the dominant variant — 66% of sequenced samples — by the third week of February. Research hasn’t yet determined whether BA.2 causes greater illness.

County leaders are still trying to determine how to check down on their response to the pandemic while preserving an infrastructure of vaccination and testing programs in the event that BA.2 or another variant comes roaring back.

Even after the masking mandate subsides, it will be largely up to residents to continue proactive safety measures to help prevent another surge and to stay well, officials have said. It remains to be seen whether the precautionary measures county leaders have reiterated continuously during the past two years have any lasting staying power.

There are some signs that many residents aren’t suddenly discarding their masks. While San Mateo County lifted the mandate on Feb. 16, a clerk at the Menlo Park Safeway reported this week that few customers were coming in unmasked.

During the county’s home rapid antigen test giveaways on Feb. 9 and 10, the county ran out at the Los Altos Library location in 35 minutes. Safeway reported this week that few customers were coming in unmasked.

The county Health and Hospital Committee recently adopted a Race and Equity mission statement on Nov. 16, 2020. The council voted on 16 other actions to advance equity measures, from use of police data to building inclusion and promoting gender equity issues. The council decided to continue this work through its Policy and Services Committee and other groups.

In March 2021, the council denounced violence directed at people of Asian descent.

The community can learn more about how to report hate crimes at medium.com/paloaltoconnect. More information on the county’s race equity work can be found at cityofpaloaltono.gov/racedequity.

Additional information about hate Crimes can be found at the California Department of Justice website, oag.ca.gov/hatecrimes.

The police department encourages the reporting of any hate crime or hate incidents that occur, the city and police said in the joint statement. Residents can call the police 24 hours a day at 650-329-2413, or if it is an emergency. For confidential reporting, visit cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/POLICE/Online-Reporting/Confidential-Tip.■ Email Staff Writer Sue Dremann at sdremann@pawweekly.com.

Mask
recommended by city staff and the Housing Element Working Group, a panel of residents, com-
missioners, developers and other stakeholders that have been work-

ing on the project for over a year.

In some cases, the commission even went beyond the working group’s recommendations. While the working group had split over the proposal to build housing on public parking lots and ultimately failed to muster the majority need-

ed to formally back this strategy, the planning commission held no such reservations and moved to advance it.

The planning commission also supported a more aggressive ap-

proach in planning for new hous-

ing at the downtown transit center, a land that is owned by Stanford University and that the university suggested can accommodate up to 50 units. While the working group supported planning for 180 dwellings on the site, a number at the lowest end of Stanford’s proposal, the planning commission agreed after an extensive discussion to raise that number to 270.

The debate over the transit cen-
ter site at 27 University Ave. re-

presented the biggest split among the commissioners, with some suggesting a more conservative approach or demanding that the site be limited to below-market-rate housing and others calling for the city to go bigger and plan for 360 dwellings at the downtown site. Commissioner Bart Hecht-

man pushed for the higher num-

ber, a proposal that Commissioner Cari Templeton supported.

“I think this is a place where we should be a bit more ambitious than the numbers the working group came up with,” Templeton said.

But with most of their col-

leagues rejecting this proposal, the commission settled for 270 dwellings, a compromise pro-

posed by Chair Ed Lauing.

Commissioner Keith Reck-

dahl noted that because the site is zoned as a “public facility,” it would be appropriate to make sure that residential growth on the site consists of affordable

housing. He ultimately agreed to soften the language and made a motion to merely recommend that the city pursue affordable housing for the site, a proposal that passed by a 4-3 vote, with the support of Bryna Chang, Lauing and Doria Summa.

Hechtman warned that requir-
ing affordable housing at the tran-

sit center could end up preventing housing from being developed at the central site because of costs.

“The false assumption that seems to underlie this motion is that if we require it, it will get built,” Hechtman said of Reck-
dahl’s proposal. “I don’t think it’s necessarily true. I think if we require it, nothing will get built. That’s actually worse than hav-

ing some percentage be built for affordable.”

Broad consensus for housing strategies

Most of the other strategies pro-

posed by the working group ad-

vocated by broad consensus. This includes the strategy of building more multifamily complexes within a half-mile of the city’s Caltrain stations, which is expect-

ed to generate about 798 dwell-

ings and which explicitly excludes low-density zones. The commis-

sion unani mously supported the strategy, even as Summa voiced some concerns about encouraging additional growth in the Mayfield neighborhood near California Avenue, an area that has seen an influx of commercial projects go up in the past decade.

“We don’t know what’s going to happen with remote working and things like this,” Summa said. “But I’d be worried that particu-

larly in Mayfield, increasing the number of units per acre . . . may put a real burden on some of the people already living in that area.”

The commission also voted 6-1 to support the strategy of increas-

ing zoning along El Camino Real, which is expected to net 274 addi-

tional units. While most members supported building more housing along the transit corridor, Summa dissented and said she wasn’t con-

fident that the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) will offer sufficient bus services along El Camino to make it a vi-

able transit corridor.

“I’d like to be peachy about the

future of the bus corridor, but the VTA seems like a very troubled agency to me and there’s a lot of uncertainty for me about their fu-

ture,” Summa said.

Others argued that building housing along El Camino would, if anything, nudge the VTA to boost bus service there.

“In general, when we increase density along the El Camino Real, we’ll also have the additional ben-

efit of improving the bus service. I think it’s a good idea,” Templeton said.

There was also a clear consen-

sus among commissioners about allowing housing in the “general manufacturing” zones, which are located in south Palo Alto and currently prohibit residential de-

velopment. But in supporting this strategy, which is expected to gen-

erate about 596 additional housing units, commissioners also urged the city to explore adding schools, transit and retail to the area to sup-

port the influx of residents.

Commissioners Chang and Giselle Roothaav also argued that the city should carve out some areas in the commercial area to be strictly for housing rather than constructing apart-
ment buildings next to industrial sites — a position that all of their colleagues embraced.

Housing advocates lobby for higher density

The commission’s marathon discussion was the second of two hear-

ings on the new Housing El-

ement, which the City Council

Where would the housing be built?

Palo Alto must plan for 6,086 new housing units between 2023 and 2031, as mandated by the Association of Bay Area Governments. Here are the strategies and the numbers of units that the city’s Planning and Transportation Commission endorsed for the city’s plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Number of Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upzoned properties</td>
<td>1,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites where the allowed housing density could be increased.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examples include existing offices, retail and parking lots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In research, office and limited manufacturing (ROLM) zones</td>
<td>902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites located in southeast Palo Alto, along East Meadow Circle and West Bayshore Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Stanford proposed sites</td>
<td>839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This includes sites on Pasteur Drive (425 units), 3128 El Camino Real (144 units), and the downtown transit center (270 units)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Around Caltrain stations</td>
<td>798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites located near the downtown and California Avenue train stations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In general manufacturing (GM) zones</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties located in southeast Palo Alto, near San Antonio and E. Charleston roads</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipeline projects</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing developments whose applications are in the entitlement process or have been approved by the city</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New accessory dwelling units (ADUs)</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units built on property with existing housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redeveloped multi-family-allowed zones</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units built in a zone that allows multifamily housing but where other buildings exist, such as retail or offices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Along transit corridor</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites located along high-use bus routes, mostly El Camino Real</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At faith-based institutions</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houses of worship with land that could host housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 3300 El Camino Real</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A proposed mixed-use office and housing development south of the Fish Market restaurant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On city staff-suggested sites</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites identified by city staff as prime locations for housing, such as properties with existing office buildings and parking lots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On city-owned parking lots</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This idea was rejected by the Housing Element Working Group, but approved by the Planning and Transportation Commission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total units</td>
<td>7,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of units beyond 2023-2031 mandate</td>
<td>1,017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: city of Palo Alto

To see an interactive map with exact addresses of parcels listed in the Housing Element, go to PaloAltoOnline.com.
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE: The court may grant the petition without a hearing.

To show cause, if any, why the petition for changing names as follows: LAURA LEE ALVAREZ to JOY LANDS LEE ALVAREZ. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: SARAH MARIE LIBIAN 13171 Lone Ct. Mountain View, CA 94040. This business is owned by: An Individual. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: אתליצי, בע”מ. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: JOSEF W. FABER. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 177 Archway Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: CANDACE L. RODRIGUEZ. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: MARIE E. KLEIN. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 1487 Kinsg Lane Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 418 Chaucer St. Palo Alto, CA 94301. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: BRUCE A. RICHARDSON. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 438 Chaucer St. Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 1487 Kinsg Lane Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 418 Chaucer St. Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company. The name and address of the registrant(s) is/are: 1487 Kinsg Lane Palo Alto, CA 94303. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company.
ADU (continued from page 8)

city has “significant concerns” about basements, particularly their impacts on street trees and on groundwater pumping. Even though state law prohibits cities from imposing a setback of greater than 4 feet for ADUs, he argued that the setback could be greater for basements as long as it remains feasible for the unit to be of at least 800 square feet.

Placing ADUs with basements close to the property line, Laird argued, may jeopardize the health of trees that serve to enhance privacy between properties.

“The trees could fail, which would both diminish the tree canopy — important for our environment and adaptation to climate change — and diminish the privacy between properties,” Laird wrote.

He also pushed back against the agency’s findings on counting garage space toward square footage, noting that the property owner “may always choose to provide a detached garage, uncovered parking, or no parking at all for the ADU.”

Laird alluded to the department finding earlier this month, when he told the council during its Feb. 5 retreat that the city will have to make some adjustments to its ordinance to make sure it complies with state law.

“It’s mostly some minor aspects, and mostly clarifications,” Laird said.

But two local architects who have been working to build accessory dwelling units in Palo Alto told the Weekly that the city’s failure to comply with state law have already had the effect of deterring some homeowners and creating major delays for many others. The proliferation of new restrictions not only conflicts with specific state requirements but runs counter to the law’s intent, which is to make ADU production quick and simple, they said in an interview.

Jessica Resmini, CEO of the company ADU Collective, has been trying to warn the city about the discrepancy between its new ordinance and state laws since October 2020, with very limited success. Since the council adopted its ordinance, she and local architect Randy Popp submitted numerous letters to the city requesting adjustments to the ordinance and have held meetings with city staff and state department officials to discuss the city’s requirements.

The process for getting an ADU approved has become increasingly complex, said Resmini, who has 64 ADU projects currently in the works between San Francisco and Orange. When she submitted a site plan for her first ADU, it consisted of five pages. Since then, it has grown to 31 sheets. The amount of money it takes to get through planning makes it unaffordable for many people who are looking to build the additional unit.

“It’s totally and completely over the top,” Resmini said.

At times, the feedback she has been getting from Palo Alto planning staff is frustratingly vague and subjective. She gave an example of an ADU she was working on at Greenwood Avenue, which is south of Eleanor Pardoe Park. The owners wanted to convert a garage and add an extension to create an ADU. The property included a redwood tree close to the project site that would have been preserved under the plans. Despite their efforts to avoid the redwood, the city’s Urban Forestry Division declined to sign off on the project.

“They got so many runarounds from Urban Forestry that they stopped the project,” Resmini said. “It was just too much for them.”

Popp sits with Resmini on the ADU Task Force, a coalition of architects that has been working with the city on its ADU laws. In January 2020, when the city adopted its initial urgency ordinance for ADUs, he submitted a complaint to the state department that identified discrepancies between Palo Alto’s new rules and the state ordinance. Popp told the Weekly that the complaint is the only avenue that residents have to point out areas where local laws don’t align with the state.

Popp has written numerous letters urging the city to revise its laws, including the one that prohibits basements at new ADUs. He mentioned one project in which an ADU is on a hillside and the owner wanted to press the first floor into the ground by about 24 inches. The city found that this was not allowable.

“The city has added a lever of complexity that is really disincen-
tivizing new development,” Popp told the Weekly.

Popp said he sees the creation of ADUs as an effective method to build more housing in a way that does not significantly impact the immediate neighborhood. And while the city sees the recent proliferation of ADUs as a victory of sorts, he believes the number could have been far higher if the city’s laws were less stringent and more consistent with the state’s intent.

“I happen to believe that sprinkling ADUs through the city and through the state is a very gentle way to create housing that does not create as significant an impact as, for example, a 150-unit apartment building on the corner, where you have a density of people who weren’t there before,” Popp said. “When you’re talking about the 89 ADUs built around Palo Alto — the impact of that is not measurable. You can’t say that the traffic at Charleston is worse because there are those ADUs. And even if we double that number, it still wouldn’t be measurable.”

Email Staff Writer Gennyday Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.
3 BEDROOMS | 2.5 BATHROOMS | 1,183 SF HOME

Wonderful 3-story townhouse-style condo with community pool in prime downtown Palo Alto. First floor includes a dining room with parquet floors open to the spacious living room with brick fireplace and built-in book shelves, a bright kitchen, and a half bath. Second floor hosts the primary bedroom with its own bathroom and walk-in closet, 2 additional bedrooms and a hall bathroom with shower over tub. Below the entry level is a large 2-car attached garage with a laundry room that has direct access to the home. Excellent schools: Addison Elementary, Greene Middle, and Palo Alto High.

OFFERED AT $1,529,700 | 535CHANNING.COM

BY APPT ONLY

This information was supplied by third party source. Sales Associates believes this information is correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should verify accuracy and investigate to Buyer’s own satisfaction.
145 WALTER HAYS DRIVE, PALO ALTO

3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 1,498 SF HOME | 6,572 SF LOT

Elegant, light & bright Barrett & Hilp on a beautiful tree-lined street in the wonderful Green Gables neighborhood. Eat-in kitchen with oversized windows that shower the charming breakfast area with natural light, spacious dining room, living room with fireplace and direct access to the rear yard, and a primary suite with a stylish bathroom with glass enclosed shower. Two additional bedrooms (one currently used as office/den), a second hall bathroom with shower over tub, handsome parquet floors, great storage space, fresh paint, and a 2-car attached garage. Gorgeous lush and mature landscaping with a variety of colors and species provides privacy to the rear yard and includes an expansive patio, green lawn, and wisteria-covered pergola. Fabulous location close to the Main Library, Palo Alto Art Center, Children’s Library, Children’s Jr. Museum & Zoo, parks and excellent schools (Duveneck Elementary, Greene Middle School, Palo Alto High School).

OFFERED AT $3,398,000 | 145WALTERHAYS.COM

BY APPT ONLY

This information was supplied by third party source. Sales Associates believes this information is correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should verify accuracy and investigate to Buyer’s own satisfaction.

650.303.5511 | brianchancellor.com | brianc@sereno.com | DRE 01174998
Democracy and journalism go hand in hand.

The community remains vibrant and socially aware due to the ongoing efforts of the Palo Alto Online publishing team and its visionary publisher. Life is change and though one can never return to yesteryear, Palo Alto Online continually strives to keep its readership informed of the pertinent changes and conflicts that impact Palo Alto everyday life. Kudos to Palo Alto Online and its commitment to journalistic integrity.

— Aron M. member since XXXX

Become a subscribing member and support the local reporting you depend on.

JOIN AT: PaloAltoOnline.com/join/

You can also subscribe for one year by mailing a check for $144 to us at 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto 94306.
Housing

(continued from page 33)

the transit-rich area represents a great opportunity for housing, particularly because it isn’t located near any low-density neighborhoods.

“IT just seems like a waste not to have it zoned more densely,” Klein said.

“IT has resulted in a hollowing out of our community, where low-, moderate-, and middle-income people cannot afford to live,” Kniss wrote.

Building affordable housing on top of parking at downtown lots could create about 1,000 housing units, which would be located near transit, shopping and services, she noted.

“These sites could create ‘car-light’ walkable and bikeable neighborhoods, reducing lengthy commuting and greenhouse gas emissions, and restoring the social and economic balance in our housing,” Kniss wrote.

Email Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner at gsheyner@paweekly.com.
966 Blair Court, Palo Alto

3 Bed | 2 Full Bath | Home 1,561± SQFT | Lot 8,750± SQFT | Offered at $2,998,000

OPEN HOUSE: Saturday & Sunday 1:30pm - 4:30pm
www.966BlairCourt.com

Dana McCue
DRE #01749772
650.248.3950
Dana.McCue@compass.com